
HOUSE BILL 2547

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Kessler, Campbell, Lisk, Ruderman, Rockefeller, Grant, Conway, Armstrong, Alexander, Cody, Linville, McMorris, Clements, Pflug, Hankins, Chase, Edwards, Simpson, Quall, Voloria and Jackley

Read first time 01/21/2002. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing optometrists to use and prescribe
2 approved drugs for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes without
3 limitation upon the methods of delivery in the practice of optometry;
4 and amending RCW 18.53.010, 18.53.140, 69.41.030, and 69.50.101.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.53.010 and 1989 c 36 s 1 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 (1) The practice of optometry is defined as the examination of the
9 human eye, the examination and ascertaining any defects of the human
10 vision system and the analysis of the process of vision. The practice
11 of optometry may include, but not necessarily be limited to, the
12 following:

13 (a) The employment of any objective or subjective means or method,
14 including the use of drugs (~~topically applied to the eye~~),
15 diagnostic and therapeutic purposes by those licensed under this
16 chapter and who meet the requirements of subsections (2) and (3) of
17 this section, and the use of any diagnostic instruments or devices for
18 the examination or analysis of the human vision system, the measurement

1 of the powers or range of human vision, or the determination of the
2 refractive powers of the human eye or its functions in general; and

3 (b) The prescription and fitting of lenses, prisms, therapeutic or
4 refractive contact lenses and the adaption or adjustment of frames and
5 lenses used in connection therewith; and

6 (c) The prescription and provision of visual therapy, therapeutic
7 aids, and other optical devices(~~(, and the treatment with topically~~
8 ~~applied drugs by those licensed under this chapter and who meet the~~
9 ~~requirements of subsections (2) and (3) of this section)); and~~

10 (d) The ascertainment of the perceptive, neural, muscular, or
11 pathological condition of the visual system; and

12 (e) The adaptation of prosthetic eyes.

13 (2)(a) Those persons using drugs for diagnostic purposes in the
14 practice of optometry shall have a minimum of sixty hours of didactic
15 and clinical instruction in general and ocular pharmacology as applied
16 to optometry, (~~and for therapeutic purposes, an additional minimum of~~
17 ~~seventy-five hours of didactic and clinical instruction)) as
18 established by the board, and certification from an institution of
19 higher learning, accredited by those agencies recognized by the United
20 States office of education or the council on postsecondary
21 accreditation to qualify for certification by the optometry board of
22 Washington to use drugs for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes.~~

23 (b) Those persons using or prescribing topical drugs for
24 therapeutic purposes in the practice of optometry must be certified
25 under (a) of this subsection, and must have an additional minimum of
26 seventy-five hours of didactic and clinical instruction as established
27 by the board, and certification from an institution of higher learning,
28 accredited by those agencies recognized by the United States office of
29 education or the council on postsecondary accreditation to qualify for
30 certification by the optometry board of Washington to use drugs for
31 therapeutic purposes.

32 (c) Those persons using or prescribing drugs administered orally
33 for therapeutic purposes in the practice of optometry shall be
34 certified under (b) of this subsection, and shall have an additional
35 minimum of sixteen hours of didactic and eight hours of supervised
36 clinical instruction as established by the board, and certification
37 from an institution of higher learning, accredited by those agencies
38 recognized by the United States office of education or the council on
39 postsecondary accreditation to qualify for certification by the

1 optometry board of Washington to administer, dispense, or prescribe
2 oral drugs for therapeutic purposes.

3 (d) Those persons administering epinephrine by injection for
4 treatment of anaphylactic shock in the practice of optometry must be
5 certified under (b) of this subsection and must have an additional
6 minimum of four hours of didactic and supervised clinical instruction,
7 as established by the board, and certification from an institution of
8 higher learning, accredited by those agencies recognized by the United
9 States office of education or the council on postsecondary
10 accreditation to qualify for certification by the optometry board to
11 administer epinephrine by injection.

12 (e) Such course or courses shall be the fiscal responsibility of
13 the participating and attending optometrist.

14 (3) The board shall establish a schedule of drugs for diagnostic
15 and treatment purposes limited to the practice of optometry, and no
16 person licensed pursuant to this chapter shall prescribe, dispense,
17 purchase, possess, or administer drugs except as authorized and to the
18 extent permitted by the board.

19 (4) The board must establish a list of Schedule II through V
20 controlled substances, after consultation with the board of pharmacy,
21 and no person licensed under this chapter may use, prescribe, dispense,
22 purchase, possess, or administer these drugs except as authorized and
23 to the extent permitted by the board.

24 (a) The board, in consultation with the board of pharmacy, must
25 establish, by rule, specific guidelines for the prescription and
26 administration of drugs by optometrists, so that licensed optometrists
27 and persons filling their prescriptions have a clear understanding of
28 which drugs and which dosages or forms are included in the authority
29 granted by this section.

30 (b) An optometrist may not prescribe, dispense, or administer a
31 controlled substance for more than seven days in treating a particular
32 patient for a single trauma, episode, or condition or for pain
33 associated with or related to the trauma, episode, or condition.

34 (c) The prescription or administration of drugs as authorized in
35 this section is specifically limited to those drugs appropriate to
36 treatment of diseases or conditions of the human eye and the adnexa
37 that are within the scope of practice of optometry. The prescription
38 or administration of drugs for any other purpose is not authorized by
39 this section.

1 (5) The board shall develop a means of identification and
2 verification of optometrists certified to use therapeutic drugs for the
3 purpose of issuing prescriptions as authorized by this section.

4 (6) Nothing in this chapter may be construed to authorize retinal
5 repair surgery or laser in situ keratomileusis surgery, nor the use,
6 prescription, dispensing, purchase, possession, or administration of
7 any Schedule I controlled substance. The provisions of this subsection
8 must be strictly construed.

9 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.53.140 and 1991 c 3 s 138 are each amended to read
10 as follows:

11 It shall be unlawful for any person:

12 (1) To sell or barter, or offer to sell or barter any license
13 issued by the secretary; or

14 (2) To purchase or procure by barter any license with the intent to
15 use the same as evidence of the holder's qualification to practice
16 optometry; or

17 (3) To alter with fraudulent intent in any material regard such
18 license; or

19 (4) To use or attempt to use any such license which has been
20 purchased, fraudulently issued, counterfeited or materially altered as
21 a valid license; or

22 (5) To practice optometry under a false or assumed name, or as a
23 representative or agent of any person, firm or corporation with which
24 the licensee has no connection: PROVIDED, Nothing in this chapter nor
25 in the optometry law shall make it unlawful for any lawfully licensed
26 optometrist or association of lawfully licensed optometrists to
27 practice optometry under the name of any lawfully licensed optometrist
28 who may transfer by inheritance or otherwise the right to use such
29 name; or

30 (6) To practice optometry in this state either for him or herself
31 or any other individual, corporation, partnership, group, public or
32 private entity, or any member of the licensed healing arts without
33 having at the time of so doing a valid license issued by the secretary
34 of health; or

35 (7) To in any manner barter or give away as premiums either on his
36 or her own account or as agent or representative for any other purpose,
37 firm or corporation, any eyeglasses, spectacles, lenses or frames; or

1 (8) To use drugs in the practice of optometry, except ((those
2 ~~topically applied for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes~~)) as
3 authorized under RCW 18.53.010; or

4 (9) To use advertising whether printed, radio, display, or of any
5 other nature, which is misleading or inaccurate in any material
6 particular, nor shall any such person in any way misrepresent any goods
7 or services (including but without limitation, its use, trademark,
8 grade, quality, size, origin, substance, character, nature, finish,
9 material, content, or preparation) or credit terms, values, policies,
10 services, or the nature or form of the business conducted; or

11 (10) To advertise the "free examination of eyes," "free
12 consultation," "consultation without obligation," "free advice," or any
13 words or phrases of similar import which convey the impression to the
14 public that eyes are examined free or of a character tending to deceive
15 or mislead the public, or in the nature of "bait advertising;" or

16 (11) To use an advertisement of a frame or mounting which is not
17 truthful in describing the frame or mounting and all its component
18 parts. Or advertise a frame or mounting at a price, unless it shall be
19 depicted in the advertisement without lenses inserted, and in addition
20 the advertisement must contain a statement immediately following, or
21 adjacent to the advertised price, that the price is for frame or
22 mounting only, and does not include lenses, eye examination and
23 professional services, which statement shall appear in type as large as
24 that used for the price, or advertise lenses or complete glasses, viz.:
25 frame or mounting with lenses included, at a price either alone or in
26 conjunction with professional services; or

27 (12) To use advertising, whether printed, radio, display, or of any
28 other nature, which inaccurately lays claim to a policy or continuing
29 practice of generally underselling competitors; or

30 (13) To use advertising, whether printed, radio, display or of any
31 other nature which refers inaccurately in any material particular to
32 any competitors or their goods, prices, values, credit terms, policies
33 or services; or

34 (14) To use advertising whether printed, radio, display, or of any
35 other nature, which states any definite amount of money as "down
36 payment" and any definite amount of money as a subsequent payment, be
37 it daily, weekly, monthly, or at the end of any period of time.

1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 69.41.030 and 1996 c 178 s 17 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, deliver, or possess
4 any legend drug except upon the order or prescription of a physician
5 under chapter 18.71 RCW, an osteopathic physician and surgeon under
6 chapter 18.57 RCW, an optometrist licensed under chapter 18.53 RCW who
7 is certified by the optometry board under RCW 18.53.010, a dentist
8 under chapter 18.32 RCW, a podiatric physician and surgeon under
9 chapter 18.22 RCW, a veterinarian under chapter 18.92 RCW, a
10 commissioned medical or dental officer in the United States armed
11 forces or public health service in the discharge of his or her official
12 duties, a duly licensed physician or dentist employed by the veterans
13 administration in the discharge of his or her official duties, a
14 registered nurse or advanced registered nurse practitioner under
15 chapter 18.79 RCW when authorized by the nursing care quality assurance
16 commission, an osteopathic physician assistant under chapter 18.57A RCW
17 when authorized by the board of osteopathic medicine and surgery, a
18 physician assistant under chapter 18.71A RCW when authorized by the
19 medical quality assurance commission, a physician licensed to practice
20 medicine and surgery or a physician licensed to practice osteopathic
21 medicine and surgery, a dentist licensed to practice dentistry, a
22 podiatric physician and surgeon licensed to practice podiatric medicine
23 and surgery, or a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary
24 medicine, in any province of Canada which shares a common border with
25 the state of Washington or in any state of the United States:
26 PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That the above provisions shall not apply to sale,
27 delivery, or possession by drug wholesalers or drug manufacturers, or
28 their agents or employees, or to any practitioner acting within the
29 scope of his or her license, or to a common or contract carrier or
30 warehouseman, or any employee thereof, whose possession of any legend
31 drug is in the usual course of business or employment: PROVIDED
32 FURTHER, That nothing in this chapter or chapter 18.64 RCW shall
33 prevent a family planning clinic that is under contract with the
34 department of social and health services from selling, delivering,
35 possessing, and dispensing commercially prepackaged oral contraceptives
36 prescribed by authorized, licensed health care practitioners.

37 **Sec. 4.** RCW 69.50.101 and 1998 c 222 s 3 are each amended to read
38 as follows:

1 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, definitions of terms
2 shall be as indicated where used in this chapter:

3 (a) "Administer" means to apply a controlled substance, whether by
4 injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means, directly to the
5 body of a patient or research subject by:

6 (1) a practitioner authorized to prescribe (or, by the
7 practitioner's authorized agent); or

8 (2) the patient or research subject at the direction and in the
9 presence of the practitioner.

10 (b) "Agent" means an authorized person who acts on behalf of or at
11 the direction of a manufacturer, distributor, or dispenser. It does
12 not include a common or contract carrier, public warehouseperson, or
13 employee of the carrier or warehouseperson.

14 (c) "Board" means the state board of pharmacy.

15 (d) "Controlled substance" means a drug, substance, or immediate
16 precursor included in Schedules I through V as set forth in federal or
17 state laws, or federal or board rules.

18 (e)(1) "Controlled substance analog" means a substance the chemical
19 structure of which is substantially similar to the chemical structure
20 of a controlled substance in Schedule I or II and:

21 (i) that has a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on
22 the central nervous system substantially similar to the stimulant,
23 depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system of
24 a controlled substance included in Schedule I or II; or

25 (ii) with respect to a particular individual, that the individual
26 represents or intends to have a stimulant, depressant, or
27 hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system substantially
28 similar to the stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the
29 central nervous system of a controlled substance included in Schedule
30 I or II.

31 (2) The term does not include:

32 (i) a controlled substance;

33 (ii) a substance for which there is an approved new drug
34 application;

35 (iii) a substance with respect to which an exemption is in effect
36 for investigational use by a particular person under Section 505 of the
37 federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. Sec. 355, to the extent
38 conduct with respect to the substance is pursuant to the exemption; or

1 (iv) any substance to the extent not intended for human consumption
2 before an exemption takes effect with respect to the substance.

3 (f) "Deliver" or "delivery," means the actual or constructive
4 transfer from one person to another of a substance, whether or not
5 there is an agency relationship.

6 (g) "Department" means the department of health.

7 (h) "Dispense" means the interpretation of a prescription or order
8 for a controlled substance and, pursuant to that prescription or order,
9 the proper selection, measuring, compounding, labeling, or packaging
10 necessary to prepare that prescription or order for delivery.

11 (i) "Dispenser" means a practitioner who dispenses.

12 (j) "Distribute" means to deliver other than by administering or
13 dispensing a controlled substance.

14 (k) "Distributor" means a person who distributes.

15 (l) "Drug" means (1) a controlled substance recognized as a drug in
16 the official United States pharmacopoeia/national formulary or the
17 official homeopathic pharmacopoeia of the United States, or any
18 supplement to them; (2) controlled substances intended for use in the
19 diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of disease in
20 individuals or animals; (3) controlled substances (other than food)
21 intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of
22 individuals or animals; and (4) controlled substances intended for use
23 as a component of any article specified in (1), (2), or (3) of this
24 subsection. The term does not include devices or their components,
25 parts, or accessories.

26 (m) "Drug enforcement administration" means the drug enforcement
27 administration in the United States Department of Justice, or its
28 successor agency.

29 (n) "Immediate precursor" means a substance:

30 (1) that the state board of pharmacy has found to be and by rule
31 designates as being the principal compound commonly used, or produced
32 primarily for use, in the manufacture of a controlled substance;

33 (2) that is an immediate chemical intermediary used or likely to be
34 used in the manufacture of a controlled substance; and

35 (3) the control of which is necessary to prevent, curtail, or limit
36 the manufacture of the controlled substance.

37 (o) "Isomer" means an optical isomer, but in RCW 69.50.101(r)(5),
38 69.50.204(a) (12) and (34), and 69.50.206(a)(4), the term includes any
39 geometrical isomer; in RCW 69.50.204(a) (8) and (42), and 69.50.210(c)

1 the term includes any positional isomer; and in RCW 69.50.204(a)(35),
2 69.50.204(c), and 69.50.208(a) the term includes any positional or
3 geometric isomer.

4 (p) "Manufacture" means the production, preparation, propagation,
5 compounding, conversion, or processing of a controlled substance,
6 either directly or indirectly or by extraction from substances of
7 natural origin, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by
8 a combination of extraction and chemical synthesis, and includes any
9 packaging or repackaging of the substance or labeling or relabeling of
10 its container. The term does not include the preparation, compounding,
11 packaging, repackaging, labeling, or relabeling of a controlled
12 substance:

13 (1) by a practitioner as an incident to the practitioner's
14 administering or dispensing of a controlled substance in the course of
15 the practitioner's professional practice; or

16 (2) by a practitioner, or by the practitioner's authorized agent
17 under the practitioner's supervision, for the purpose of, or as an
18 incident to, research, teaching, or chemical analysis and not for sale.

19 (q) "Marijuana" or "marihuana" means all parts of the plant
20 Cannabis, whether growing or not; the seeds thereof; the resin
21 extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture,
22 salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant, its seeds or
23 resin. The term does not include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber
24 produced from the stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant,
25 any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or
26 preparation of the mature stalks (except the resin extracted
27 therefrom), fiber, oil, or cake, or the sterilized seed of the plant
28 which is incapable of germination.

29 (r) "Narcotic drug" means any of the following, whether produced
30 directly or indirectly by extraction from substances of vegetable
31 origin, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by a
32 combination of extraction and chemical synthesis:

33 (1) Opium, opium derivative, and any derivative of opium or opium
34 derivative, including their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers,
35 whenever the existence of the salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is
36 possible within the specific chemical designation. The term does not
37 include the isoquinoline alkaloids of opium.

38 (2) Synthetic opiate and any derivative of synthetic opiate,
39 including their isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers,

1 esters, and ethers, whenever the existence of the isomers, esters,
2 ethers, and salts is possible within the specific chemical designation.

3 (3) Poppy straw and concentrate of poppy straw.

4 (4) Coca leaves, except coca leaves and extracts of coca leaves
5 from which cocaine, ecgonine, and derivatives or ecgonine or their
6 salts have been removed.

7 (5) Cocaine, or any salt, isomer, or salt of isomer thereof.

8 (6) Cocaine base.

9 (7) Ecgonine, or any derivative, salt, isomer, or salt of isomer
10 thereof.

11 (8) Any compound, mixture, or preparation containing any quantity
12 of any substance referred to in subparagraphs (1) through (7).

13 (s) "Opiate" means any substance having an addiction-forming or
14 addiction-sustaining liability similar to morphine or being capable of
15 conversion into a drug having addiction-forming or addiction-sustaining
16 liability. The term includes opium, substances derived from opium
17 (opium derivatives), and synthetic opiates. The term does not include,
18 unless specifically designated as controlled under RCW 69.50.201, the
19 dextrorotatory isomer of 3-methoxy-n-methylmorphinan and its salts
20 (dextromethorphan). The term includes the racemic and levorotatory
21 forms of dextromethorphan.

22 (t) "Opium poppy" means the plant of the species *Papaver somniferum*
23 L., except its seeds.

24 (u) "Person" means individual, corporation, business trust, estate,
25 trust, partnership, association, joint venture, government,
26 governmental subdivision or agency, or any other legal or commercial
27 entity.

28 (v) "Poppy straw" means all parts, except the seeds, of the opium
29 poppy, after mowing.

30 (w) "Practitioner" means:

31 (1) A physician under chapter 18.71 RCW, a physician assistant
32 under chapter 18.71A RCW, an osteopathic physician and surgeon under
33 chapter 18.57 RCW, an optometrist licensed under chapter 18.53 RCW who
34 is certified by the optometry board under RCW 18.53.010 subject to any
35 limitations in RCW 18.53.010, a dentist under chapter 18.32 RCW, a
36 podiatric physician and surgeon under chapter 18.22 RCW, a veterinarian
37 under chapter 18.92 RCW, a registered nurse, advanced registered nurse
38 practitioner, or licensed practical nurse under chapter 18.79 RCW, a
39 pharmacist under chapter 18.64 RCW or a scientific investigator under

1 this chapter, licensed, registered or otherwise permitted insofar as is
2 consistent with those licensing laws to distribute, dispense, conduct
3 research with respect to or administer a controlled substance in the
4 course of their professional practice or research in this state.

5 (2) A pharmacy, hospital or other institution licensed, registered,
6 or otherwise permitted to distribute, dispense, conduct research with
7 respect to or to administer a controlled substance in the course of
8 professional practice or research in this state.

9 (3) A physician licensed to practice medicine and surgery, a
10 physician licensed to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery, a
11 dentist licensed to practice dentistry, a podiatric physician and
12 surgeon licensed to practice podiatric medicine and surgery, or a
13 veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in any state of
14 the United States.

15 (x) "Prescription" means an order for controlled substances issued
16 by a practitioner duly authorized by law or rule in the state of
17 Washington to prescribe controlled substances within the scope of his
18 or her professional practice for a legitimate medical purpose.

19 (y) "Production" includes the manufacturing, planting, cultivating,
20 growing, or harvesting of a controlled substance.

21 (z) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's
22 designee.

23 (aa) "State," unless the context otherwise requires, means a state
24 of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of
25 Puerto Rico, or a territory or insular possession subject to the
26 jurisdiction of the United States.

27 (bb) "Ultimate user" means an individual who lawfully possesses a
28 controlled substance for the individual's own use or for the use of a
29 member of the individual's household or for administering to an animal
30 owned by the individual or by a member of the individual's household.

31 (cc) "Electronic communication of prescription information" means
32 the communication of prescription information by computer, or the
33 transmission of an exact visual image of a prescription by facsimile,
34 or other electronic means for original prescription information or
35 prescription refill information for a Schedule III-V controlled
36 substance between an authorized practitioner and a pharmacy or the
37 transfer of prescription information for a controlled substance from
38 one pharmacy to another pharmacy.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** If any provision of this act or its
2 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
3 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
4 persons or circumstances is not affected.

--- END ---